


TO THE
UPREAM AUTHORITY,
THE
PARLIAMENT
of the Common-wealth of
ENGLAND.

The humble Petition of diverse poor and distressed men,
heretofore the Actors of BLACK-FRIERS
and the COCK-PIT.

SHEWETH,

 Hat your most poor Petitioners, having long suffered in extream want, by being prohibited the use of their qualitie of *Acting*, in which they were trained up from their Childhood, whereby they are incapable of any other way to get a subsistence, and are now fallen into such lamentable povertie, that they know not how to provide food for themselves, their wives and children: great Debts withall being demanded of them, and they not in a condition to satisfie the Creditours; and without your mercifull and present Permission, they must all inevitably perish.

May it therefore please this Honourable House to commiserate their sad and distressed condition, and to vouchsafe them a Libertie to *Act* but some small time (for their trial of *inoffensiveness*) onely such Moral and harmless Representations, as shall no way be distastfull to the Common-wealth or good manners. They humbly submitting themselves to any of knowing judgement and fidelitie to the S T A T E, appointed to oversee them and their actions, and willing to contribute out of their poor endeavours, what shall be thought fit and allotted them to pay weekly or otherwise, for the service of *Ireland*, or as the S T A T E shall think fitting.

And as in dutie they are ever bound, shall pray, &c.